## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup> SEAT PLEASANT MAYOR, EUGENE W. GRANT to Excite Youth about Smart Cities at the USA Science & Engineering Festival Free Event in DC to Inspire Kids to Explore "Where Can STEM Take You?"

**Seat Pleasant, MD, April 5**—Mayor **Eugene W. Grant** is presenting at the 5th <u>USA Science & Engineering Festival Expo</u>, presented by <u>Lockheed Martin</u>, at <u>The Color of Stem Pavilion</u> on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM about Smart Cities. Designed to inspire the next generation of inventors, creators and innovators, the Festival is a free, family-friendly expo that allows kids and adults to participate in thousands of exhibits, experiments, and stage shows.

Mayor Grant stated, "It is a great honor for me to participate and share information to the attendees about the relationship between Smart Cities and STEM careers." Grant went on to say, "The USA Science & Engineering Festival is an excellent event to showcase the numerous career paths that young people can consider in the future."

The Festival Expo, which takes place at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in DC on April 7 from 10am-6pm and 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am-4pm, is the grand finale of the Festival's year-long science celebration. Taking over the entire convention center, the Festival Expo features over 3,000 hands-on activities showcasing how <u>STEM Can Take You</u> into the deep blue, into cyberspace, inside the human body, into nature, into outer space and beyond! In all, the Festival expects to draw more than 350,000 people.

Mayor Eugene W. Grant has been leading the City of Seat Pleasant, Maryland through successful innovative methods and providing executive municipal leadership since 2004. In 2017, Mayor Grant signed an agreement with IBM to build a \$30 million cloud-based, Intelligent Operations Center in the City of Seat Pleasant, A Smart City of Excellence. This multi-year endeavor will elevate Seat Pleasant to become the world's FIRST authentic Small Smart City.

The Festival features science celebrities, explorers, astronauts, physicists, inventors, and experts in fields like oceanography, climatology, robotics, medical research, neuroscience, space exploration, artificial intelligence, and more. Other <u>participating science celebrities</u> include:

- o Danni Washington, TV host and Ocean Explorer
- Explosive Science's <u>Dr. Kate Biberdorf</u>
- World Champion of Magic Jason Latimer
- America's Science Teacher Steve Spangler
- o Emily Callandrelli, host of Fox TV Xploration Outer Space

Founded by serial entrepreneur Larry Bock and Lockheed Martin executives to address the severe shortage in science and tech talent, the USA Science & Engineering Festival is the

nation's largest science festival and was developed to ignite the next generation's interest in pursuing careers in science and engineering.

"Our nation's future relies on encouraging more kids to go into STEM careers. By hosting the nation's largest science festival, we are hoping to capture their imaginations by introducing them to science rock stars and engaging them in real science projects." explained Marc Schulman, Festival executive director.

The Color of STEM's mission is to produce and distribute content on multiple platforms that inspire and encourages our target audience as well as educate the general viewer or listener. We will showcase the accomplishments that minorities have made and continue to make in the STEM (science, engineering, technology, math) fields and how these ChangeMakers impact their community and the global marketplace.

To learn more about USA Science & Engineering Festival, visit <a href="www.USAScienceFestival.org">www.USAScienceFestival.org</a>. To learn more about The Color of STEM, visit <a href="www.thecolorofstem.com">www.thecolorofstem.com</a>.

## **ABOUT Seat Pleasant**

Founded in 1931, the city of Seat Pleasant is a small bedroom community west of Washington, DC in Prince George's County, Maryland. Its government is balanced with a Mayor and Seven Councilmembers. Seat Pleasant: A Smart City of Excellence is committed to finding ways to deliver services effectively and efficiently and provide meaningful and innovative methods to engage our citizenry. The City of Seat Pleasant is the first Smart City in the state of Maryland offering Smart City services that are better, faster, and personalized making it a "City for Me" using information and communication technology, with the internet of things.

For more information on the City of Seat Pleasant, visit online at <a href="www.seatpleasantmd.gov">www.seatpleasantmd.gov</a>, Twitter @cityofseatpleasant or Facebook at <a href="www.facebook.com/cityofseatpleasant">www.facebook.com/cityofseatpleasant</a>.